

*Wendy Trelut*

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**RECEIVED**

**JUL 30 2007**

**Ravalli County Commissioners**

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July 25, 2007

Ravalli County Commissioners  
215 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite A  
Hamilton, MT 59840

Re: Purposed Lost Horse Quarry

Dear Commissioner,

*I was disheartened to learn that the Ravalli County Road and Bridge Department was looking favorably upon a plan to reopen this long abandoned quarry.*

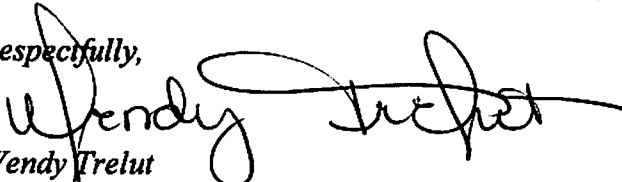
*As I am certain you are aware, the Lost Horse area is used year round by a huge number of individuals, families and groups for recreation. The area is home to myriad wildlife as well as many human residents. The impacts of dust, noise, heavy equipment, and increased traffic can only have an irreparable and detrimental effect upon the health, safety and quality of life of these individuals.*

*Since rock is overabundant in Ravalli County, it would seem reasonable that many sites exist closer to the Highway 93 industrial corridor. There are very few places in our county that are less appropriate sites for a gravel crushing operation than the Lost Horse drainage with its unique beauty and recreational opportunities.*

*I believe that as a county commissioner, you have an obligation to make decisions based upon what is in the best interest of county residents. Since Ravalli County derives abundant revenue from tourism, anything that would adversely effect the flow of tourist dollars is probably not in the best interest of our county. Lost Horse currently exists as an area which draws visitors from all over our country. During the past year, I have personally observed vehicles from over 30 states as well as from Canada in the Lost Horse area. Please help to preserve this heavily used area for current recreational users as well as those of the future.*

*Though there may have been a time when mining was an acceptable and compatible use for this area, that time has long past.*

Respectfully,

  
Wendy Trelut

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